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FACT SHEET ON NONWHITE WOMEN WORKERS.
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RECENT SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS HAVE HELPED TO IMPROVE THE STATUS OF NONWHITE WOMEN WORKERS, BUT THERE ARE STILL SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCES IN THE EMPLOYMENT PATTERNS OF NONWHITE AND WHITE WOMEN. A HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF NONWHITES ARE IN THE LABOR FORCE AND ARE WORKING WIVES AND WORKING MOTHERS. IN GENERAL, NONWHITES HAVE HIGHER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, LOWER INCOME, AND LESS SCHOOLING THAN WHITES, AND MORE ARE CONCENTRATED IN LOW-SKILLED, LOW-WAGE OCCUPATIONS. THE 3.5 MILLION IN THE LABOR FORCE IN 1965 WERE 46 PERCENT OF ALL NONWHITE WOMEN. OF THOSE WOMEN WITH CHILDREN 6-17 YEARS OF AGE, 58 PERCENT OF THE NONWHITES WERE WORKERS. THEY WERE IN ALL MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS. THIRTY PERCENT WERE IN PRIVATE HOUSEHOLD WORK, 25 PERCENT IN SERVICE WORK, AND 11 PERCENT IN CLERICAL WORK. ABOUT 30 PERCENT WERE ON PART-TIME SCHEDULES BUT PREFERRED FULL-TIME. ALMOST 67 PERCENT OF NONWHITE WOMEN REPORTED SOME INCOME IN 1964. THE MEDIAN WAS $1,066 WHILE THAT OF FULL-TIME, YEAR-ROUND WORKERS WAS $2,674. ABOUT 324,000 NONWHITE WOMEN WERE SEEKING WORK IN 1965. THE MEDIAN NUMBER OF SCHOOL YEARS COMPLETED BY NONWHITE WOMEN WORKERS 18 YEARS AND OVER IN MARCH 1965 WAS 11.1 YEARS. THIRTY-TWO PERCENT HAD COMPLETED 8 YEARS OR LESS OF SCHOOLING, 29 PERCENT HAD COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL, AND 8 PERCENT HAD GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE. SOURCES OF THESE DATA ARE THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BUREAU OF CENSUS, AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS. (FP)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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FACT SHEET ON NONWHITE WOMEN WORKERS

Recent social, economic, and political developments have helped to improve the status of nonwhite women workers, but still there are substantial differences in the employment patterns of nonwhite and white women. A higher percentage of nonwhite than white women are in the labor force, are working wives, and are working mothers. In general, nonwhite women have higher unemployment rates, lower income, and less schooling than white women, and more of them are concentrated in low-skilled, low-wage occupations.

There were 3.5 million nonwhite women (about 93 percent of them Negro) in the labor force in 1965. Forty-six percent of all nonwhite women (37 percent of all white women) were workers. Nonwhite women were 13 percent of all women workers and 11 percent of all women in the population.

About 324,000 nonwhite women were seeking work in 1965; their unemployment rate was 9.3 percent (5.0 percent for white women). In 1965 almost every third nonwhite girl (every eighth white girl) 14 to 19 years old was looking for a job.

Nonwhite women were in all major occupational groups in 1965. More nonwhite women (30 percent) were in private-household work than in any other single occupation. In contrast, the most popular occupation for white women (34 percent) was clerical work. Another large occupational group for nonwhite women (25 percent) was service work (except private-household). Among white women, approximately the same number were employed in three major occupational groups--professional and technical workers, operatives, and service workers (except private-household). The percent distribution of white and nonwhite women workers in 1965 by major occupational group was as follows:

Major occupational group	Percent distribution of women workers	
	White	Nonwhite
Total	100.0	100.0
Professional and technical workers	13.7	8.4
Managers, officials, and proprietors (except farm)	4.8	1.5
Clerical workers	34.1	11.8
Sales workers	8.2	2.0
Craftsmen and foremen	1.1	.7
Operatives	15.1	14.4
Nonfarm laborers	.4	.7
Private-household workers	5.6	30.3
Service workers (except private-household)	14.0	24.5
Farm workers	2.8	5.6

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About 30 percent of nonwhite women workers (25 percent of white) were on part-time schedules in 1965. More nonwhite than white women reported involuntary part-time work.

Almost 67 percent of nonwhite women (59 percent of white) reported some income in 1964. Their median income was $1,066 ($1,513 for white women). Income of less than $1,000 was reported by almost 48 percent of nonwhite women (39 percent of white). The median wage or salary income of nonwhite full-time year-round women workers ($2,674) in 1964 was 69 percent of that of white women ($3,859). This represented a substantial improvement since 1939, when it was only 38 percent.

Among women with children under 18 years of age, 46 percent of the nonwhite (34 percent of the white) were in the labor force in March 1965. Among women with children 6 to 17 years of age only, 58 percent of the nonwhite (44 percent of the white) were workers. The comparable percentage for nonwhite women with children under 6 years of age was 38 percent (23 percent for white).

The median number of school years completed by nonwhite women workers 18 years of age and over in March 1965 was 11.1 years (12.3 years for white women). Thirty-two percent of nonwhite women workers (17 percent of white) had completed 8 years or less of schooling; 29 percent of nonwhite (44 percent of white) had completed high school (no college); and 8 percent of nonwhite (10 percent of white) had graduated from college.

Note.--The sources of these data are the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census and the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.